

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EA-10 IO-13 ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05
HA-05 /132 W

-----092329 040929Z /17

P 040900Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1258
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USCINCEUR VAHIGEN GE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 8436

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, PINS, CG
SUBJECT: FAZ REORGANIZATION AND SHABA FORCE

1. DURING MEETING JULY 31 I ASKED MOBUTU HOW FAZ REORGANIZATION WAS PROGRESSING. MOBUTU SAID SO FAR, SO GOOD: FRENCH AND BELGIANS WERE MOVING AHEAD WELL IN TRAINING BRIGADES, WITH MORE INSTRUCTORS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE SHORTLY. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY, MOBUTU SAID CHINESE WERE ALSO COMMITTED TO TRAIN AND EQUIP INFANTRY (HE SPECIFIED "COMMANDO") BRIGADE, MAKING USE OF WEAPONS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TO KAMANYOLA DIVISION. (FRENCH AND BELGIAN AMBASSADORS HAVE BOTH TOLD US THEIR TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE PROGRESSING AS WELL AS EXPECTED; BOTH ANTICIPATE ARRIVAL OF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTORS WITHIN
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NEXT FEW WEEKS.)

2. MOBUTU SAID OVER-ALL REORGANIZATION OF FAZ WOULD REQUIRE ABOUT TWO YEARS. IN THE MEANTIME, HE HOPED FIRST OF NEWLY-TRAINED FAZ UNITS COULD START TAKING OVER FROM PAN-AFRICAN FORCE IN SHABA BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. BARRING UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS, HE THOUGHT ALL OF PAN-AFRICAN FORCE COULD BE WITHDRAWN BY

JUNE 1979 AT THE LATEST. MOBUTU HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR MOROCCANS,
WHO HE SAID WERE PROVIDING STRONG BACKBONE FOR SHABA FORCE.

3. BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET TOLD ME AUGUST 2 HE WAS
CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE SUPPORT FOR PAN AFRICAN FORCE, ANNUAL
COST OF WHICH MOROCCANS ESTIMATED AT 40 MILLION DOLLARS. HE
SAID FRENCH HAD MADE CLEAR THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF PAYING FOR SUP-
PORT COSTS. HE ANTICIPATED MOROCCANS WOULD RAISE MATTER WITH
HIM DURING HIS VISIT TO RABAT AUGUST 4. I SAID US POSITION
REMAINED THAT REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM INDIVIDUAL FORCE
MEMBERS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO FRENCH. SIMONET AGREED, BUT SAID
IN VIEW OF FRENCH ATTITUDE, SOME OTHER ARRANGEMENT WOULD
HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED. HE DID NOT INDICATE WHAT HE THOUGHT THAT
SHOULD BE.
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